

Please amend claims 24-30 to read as follows:

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24. (Amended) An endoluminal prosthesis comprising a radially expandable tubular frame, the frame including a plurality of resiliently expandable loops and a plurality of plastically deformable connector elements extending between adjacent loops that allow the tubular frame to plastically conform to a body lumen.

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25. (Amended) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 24, wherein the connector elements plastically deform at a predetermined load that is greater than physiological loads imposed on the deployed prosthesis by the body lumen.

26. (Amended) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 25, wherein the predetermined load is less than or equal to loads imposed on the prosthesis during deployment of the prosthesis within the body lumen.

E27  
27. (Amended) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 24, wherein adjacent expandable loops are axially separated, and wherein the connector elements comprise serpentine structures that extend axially between the adjacent expandable loops.

28. (Amended) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 24, wherein the expandable loops comprise ring-frames.

29. (Amended) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 28, further comprising a tubular liner supported by the ring-frames and the connector elements.

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30. (Amended) An endoluminal prosthesis comprising a radially expandable tubular frame defining an axis, the frame including a plurality of expandable loops and a plurality of connector elements extending between adjacent expandable loops that allow the axis to plastically conform to a body lumen,

wherein an attachment mechanism allows a limited axial motion between at least some connector elements and an associated expandable loop without deforming the connector elements.

Please add new claims 60-74 as follows:

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60. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 24, wherein the connector elements and the expandable loops are made of materials with different expansion characteristics.

61. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 24, wherein an attachment mechanism allows a limited axial motion between at least some connector elements and an associated loop without deforming the connector elements.

62. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 24, further comprising a tubular liner supported by the frame.

5347 63. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 24, wherein the connector elements are more malleable than the expandable loops.

64. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 30, wherein the expandable loops are resiliently expandable.

B3 65. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 30, wherein the connector elements are plastically deformable.

66. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 30, wherein the connector elements are plastically deformable and the expandable loops are self-expanding.

67. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 30, wherein the connector elements are more malleable than the expandable loops.

5057 68. (New) An endoluminal prosthesis comprising:  
a plurality of expandable ring-frames; and  
a plurality of connector elements extending between adjacent expandable ring-frames that allow the endoluminal prosthesis to conform to a body lumen,  
wherein the expandable ring-frames and the connector elements form an expandable tubular frame having regions of different malleability.

69. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 68, wherein the expandable ring-frames are self-expanding.

70. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 68, wherein the connector elements are plastically deformable.

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71. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 68, wherein the connector elements and the expandable ring-frames are made of materials with different expansion characteristics.

B-3  
72. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 68, wherein an attachment mechanism allows a limited axial motion between at least some connector elements and an associated ring-frame without deforming the connector elements.

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73. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 68, wherein the connector elements are plastically deformable, and the expandable ring-frames are self-expanding.

74. (New) The endoluminal prosthesis as in claim 68, wherein the connector elements are more malleable than the expandable ring-frames.